

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-11 COME-00 AGR-20 SS-20 NSC-10 SPC-03

COA-02 CG-00 DLOS-06 H-03 L-03 IO-14 SNM-02 DEAE-00

TRSE-00 OMB-01 STR-08 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

DODE-00 DRC-01 /136 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/NC/C:JFMAISTO:JVH

APPROVED BY ARA: MR. JACK B. KUBISCH

ARA/NC: MR. DEVINE

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R 032336Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 236743

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CO

SUBJECT: BILATERAL MATTERS AT KUBISCH/VAZQUEZ MEETING

1. FOREIGN MINISTER VAZQUEZ RAISED QUITA SUENO
TREATY AND COFFEE DURING NOVEMBER 30 MEETING WITH
ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH.

2. RE QUITA SUENO VAZQUEZ SAID HE WILL APPEAR
BEFORE COMMITTEE OF COLOMBIAN LOWER CHAMBER THIS
WEEK TO DEFEND TREATY, AND STATED LOWER HOUSE WOULD
RATIFY BEFORE IT ADJOURNS IN DECEMBER.

3. VAZQUEZ SAID THAT UNTIL TREATY RATIFIED, PROBLEMS
COULD OCCUR WITH U.S. FISHING VESSELS IN THE AREA.
HE ALSO MENTIONED AN OUTSTANDING ISSUE BETWEEN COLOMBIA
AND JAMAICA THAT QUITA SUENO TREATY WOULD HELP TO
RESOLVE. HE THEN ASKED ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR SENATE
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RATIFICATION.

4. ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH RESPONDED THAT TREATY STILL BEING CONSIDERED BY SENATE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE. DESK OFFICER ADDED THAT COMMITTEE HAD RECENTLY QUERIED DEPARTMENT ABOUT NICARAGUAN

CLAIM AND THAT DEPARTMENT LAWYERS WERE PLANNING TO MEET VERY SOON WITH COMMITTEE STAFF TO DISCUSS MATTER.

5. VAZQUEZ RESPONDED WITH HISTORICAL ANALYSIS OF NICARAGUAN CLAIM, AND STATED THAT COLOMBIA SIMPLY DOES NOT RECOGNIZE IT. HE NOTED THAT U.S. RECOGNITION OF NICARAGUAN CLAIM WOULD RAISE QUESTIONS ABOUT 1928 TREATY BETWEEN UNITED STATES AND COLOMBIA. VAZQUEZ SAID THAT COLOMBIA IS PREPARED TO TALK WITH NICARAGUA ABOUT QUITA SUENO AFTER PRESENT TREATY IS RATIFIED - BUT NOT BEFORE. VAZQUEZ ALSO SAID HE HEARD RUMORS THAT CONSIDERATION WAS BEING GIVEN TO SUBMITTING MATTER TO ICJ. IN THIS REGARD VAZQUEZ AGAIN STATED THAT NICARAGUA DOES NOT HAVE A CLAIM AND REPEATED COLOMBIAN WILLINGNESS TO TALK WITH NICARAGUA AFTER TREATY IS RATIFIED.

6. RE COFFEE, VAZQUEZ SAID THAT COLOMBIA WISHES TO HAVE A COFFEE AGREEMENT, AND THAT PRODUCERS NEED TO HAVE AN AGREEMENT TO PERMIT THEM TO PLAN FOR THE FUTURE, NOT SO MUCH THE IMMEDIATE SHORT TERM AS THE NEXT 3-4 YEARS.

7. ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH RAISED IMC AND NARCOTICS COOPERATION. FOREIGN MINISTER AGREED THAT IMC ISSUE LOOKS AS IF IT WILL BE RESOLVED AMONG GOC, PRIVATE COLOMBIAN INVESTORS, AND THE COMPANY. MR. KUBISCH NOTED UNITED STATES SATISFACTION THUS FAR WITH OUR JOINT NARCOTICS EFFORT. VAZQUEZ UNDERLINED HIGH LEVEL GOC INTEREST IN THIS PROGRAM, AND SAID THAT COLOMBIAN COOPERATION WILL CONTINUE.

COMMENT: ALTHOUGH VAZQUEZ' TONE ON QUITA SUENO WAS MEASURED, THERE WAS A TELLING GLINT IN HIS EYE
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WHEN NICARAGUA AND THE ICJ WERE MENTIONED. UNSURPRISINGLY, HIS DISMISSAL OF NICARAGUA'S CLAIM WAS CATEGORIC. VAZQUEZ LEFT CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT COLOMBIA WOULD REFUSE TO SUBMIT THE ISSUE TO THE ICJ. KISSINGER

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